

A photograph of a person with long blonde hair, wearing a white shirt and a brown cardigan, sitting and reading a book. The scene is set in a cozy environment with large green plants in the background. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, sans-serif font.

why our worth with God never fluctuates

BY MELISSA BOEDEKER

On a good day, where things are unfolding as planned and I am staying on track, I feel confident. If people praise me, my worth soars. On a bad day, where I make mistakes, come face-to-face with my sins, and am surrounded by disappointment and disapproval, my worth takes a nosedive.

My worth, or the way I view myself, fluctuates because I am human. My natural inclination is to base my worth on the physical. The measurable. My appearance, performance and accomplishments, feelings and emotions. The opinions and words of others. Past and present actions, emotional and physical health, my opinions of myself, and circumstances. As humans, we measure others and ourselves with these measuring sticks.

We try to control these same things within our lives so we feel better about ourselves. We want others to form favorable opinions about us. We assume people are judging us, so we try to portray the perfect life on social media.

We pretend to be the most wonderful family. And strive to be the best employee. And all the while, we are judging ourselves.

We desire to be judged worthy. Good enough. Valuable. Loved.

One critical word, one sideways look, one biting comment, and we work harder to prove we are enough. But it doesn't have to be this way. We don't have to earn our worth. We don't have to perform and accomplish to be valued. We can stop letting others and ourselves dictate our worth.

We can stop trying to earn our worth. Not because of what we have done, but because of what God has done. Our worth isn't determined by what we think about ourselves, nor by what others think. God's thoughts and views about us determine our worth.

Can we accept God at His word and freely receive the gift of worth He is trying to give us?

God doesn't base His love for us on our behavior, our worth on our performance, or our identity on our appearance. Neither does He base His response to us on our circumstances.

As our Creator, He determines our worth and hands it to us as a free gift.

This is the opposite of how we function as humans. We perform, strive, and work hard to earn our worth, to bolster our self-esteem, and to feel good about ourselves.

But with God, our worth is not based on what we do or don't do, what we accomplish, or how we perform. He doesn't judge or evaluate our worth and importance by what He sees, by our past mistakes, by our present circumstances, or by any of the other silly things we humans use to evaluate and categorize each other.

His worth for us is based on unconditional love and acceptance. It has nothing to do with our performance. He tells us we are beloved, chosen, His daughters, delightful, redeemed, renewed, saved, and unconditionally loved. It's not because of anything we have done (our performance), but because of what Jesus has done.

We don't have to earn our worth. It is freely given to each and every one of us by our creator. We cannot earn it because it's a free gift, something to receive.

God wants you to freely accept the gift of your worth and then give back by freely loving Him in return. Not to earn anything, or because you feel like you should, but freely love Him out of gratitude and freedom. And then freely pass His love onto those around you.

Can we accept God at His word and freely receive the gift of worth He is trying to give us?

Can we believe the truth that God loves us unconditionally and that our actions, our circumstances, our opinions and other's opinions, our mistakes, our sins, and our attitudes have nothing to do with our worth?

With God, our worth never fluctuates.

Let Him decide your worth!